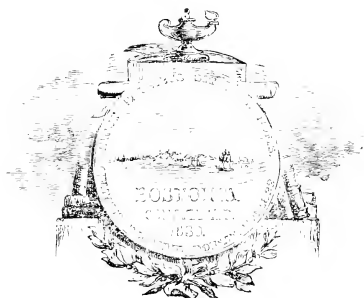




TWELFTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

1864.



BOSTON:
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1864.



City Document.—No. 92.

CITY OF BOSTON.



TWELFTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

1864.

In Board of Aldermen, December 5, 1864.

Laid on the table, and 1000 copies ordered to be printed.

Attest:

S. F. McCLEARY, *City Clerk.*



CITY OF BOSTON.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, 3 December, 1864.

HIS HONOR FREDERIC W. LINCOLN, JR., *Mayor of the City
of Boston*: —

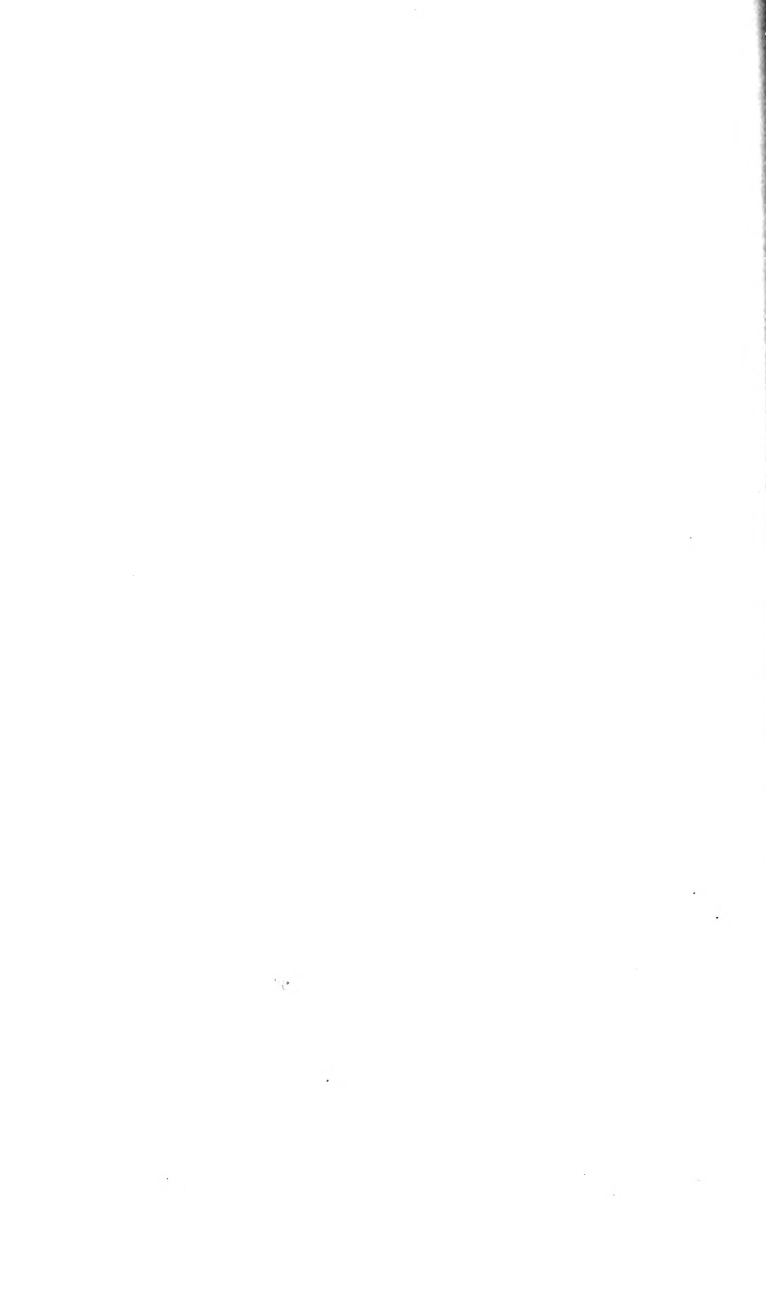
SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you, herewith, the Twelfth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Public Library, prepared in obedience to the fourth section of the Ordinance relative to the Public Library, passed on the 20th of October, 1863.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES C. JEWETT,

Secretary of the Board of Trustees.



TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

IN obedience to the fourth section of the Ordinance of 20th October, 1863, in relation to the Public Library, the Trustees submit to the City Council their Twelfth Annual

REPORT.

The Ordinance directs that a Committee shall be annually appointed by the Trustees, consisting of five citizens at large with a member of the Board to act as chairman, who shall be invited to examine the Library and make report of its condition. The members of the Committee for the present year are Rev. H. W. Foote, Wm. F. Fowle, Esq., A. A. Gould, M. D., J. L. Little, Esq., and Thomas Minns, Esq.; the Hon. W. W. Clapp, Jr., acting as chairman. The Report of this Committee, with that of the Superintendent of the Library, respectively marked A and B, is herewith submitted.

The Trustees refer with satisfaction to these reports as affording a comprehensive and detailed view of the present state of the institution, and as containing full

information with respect to its several departments, its administration, and the practical results attained. They are not aware that further explanations are needed, on the part of the Trustees, in reference to any of these points. They will only remark, in general, that they believe no public library in the world could furnish an account of operations, in some respects so satisfactory, particularly in the number of persons resorting to it and enjoying its benefits. An average daily resort of about one thousand persons coming to the Library for literary purposes, occasionally swelled to two thousand, in addition to those who come from mere curiosity, the Trustees take to be wholly without a parallel in the history of similar institutions.

The most important occurrence of the year is the decease of the munificent benefactor of the Library, Joshua Bates, Esq., of London. On the receipt of the tidings of this event, resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Trustees, expressive of their feelings on the melancholy occasion, and of their respect for his memory. A copy of these resolutions, marked C, accompanies this Report, but gratitude demands of the Trustees a more particular reference to the career and character of one justly recognized by them as the Founder of the Institution.

Mr. Bates was born at Weymouth, in the neighborhood of Boston, in 1788, the only son of Col. Joshua Bates of that place. The family was among the first that emigrated from the parent country to New England, the name appearing among the settlers of Plymouth County as early as 1633; and it has held a respectable position in the community from that time

to this. At the age of fifteen, Mr. Bates entered the counting-house of William R. Gray, Esq., the oldest son of the Hon. William Gray, well remembered as the first merchant of New England, in the last generation. Mr. Bates's aptitude for business and solid qualities of character soon attracted the notice and secured the confidence of Mr. Gray, Sen. After leaving the counting-house of Mr. William R. Gray, on becoming of age, Mr. Bates formed a connection in trade with a former shipmaster in Mr. William Gray's service. The commercial world was at that time in a very critical state. The British orders in Council, and the French Imperial decrees, had swept the neutral commerce of the United States from the ocean, war was impending and was soon declared, and the house of Beckford and Bates, young beginners, was one of thousands that went down in the crash. None but the most solid fortunes were able to withstand the pressure of the times.

This seemingly disastrous commencement of his career, was in reality the starting-point of his prosperous fortunes. It in no degree impaired Mr. Gray's confidence either in his intelligence or probity, and he was before long sent by him to Europe, as his general agent, for the superintendence of his affairs. Mr. Gray was at that time the largest ship-owner in the country, having usually between thirty and forty square-rigged vessels afloat. It will readily be seen that the trust reposed in his agent, not yet thirty years of age, was of the most onerous and responsible character. Fixing his head-quarters at London, he visited the ports of the Continent, whenever the arrival of Mr. Gray's vessels

required his presence. It need hardly be said, that nothing short of great general intelligence and unusual business capacity would have been adequate to the management of affairs so extensive and complicated, to the satisfaction of his employer.

It was on a visit to Havre, to superintend the disposal of two cargoes of cotton, that an incident took place, which gave a new direction and a decisive shape to Mr. Bates's career. It is worthy to be placed on record, as a very instructive example of the importance of such demeanor and conduct, on the part of those entering life, as are calculated at once to inspire the confidence of persons more advanced in years. Having applied to an American house at Havre, to know if they would make any deduction from the usual commission on the consignment of the expected cargoes, Mr. Bates was answered in the negative. He then went, with the same application, to the Havre branch of the house of Hope & Co. There his appearance and conversation produced so favorable an impression, that a considerable reduction of the usual commission was promised, on condition that Mr. Bates would remain and give his personal aid in the disposal of the cotton. After this agreement was entered into, Mr. Bates stated that he had demanded the reduction from no selfish motive, as he was compensated by a fixed salary, and that all the benefit of the abatement would accrue to Mr. Gray. The heads of the house, having supposed that he was bargaining for himself, were of course most favorably impressed with the integrity of the agent, in appropriating to the benefit of his principal, what, with a less scrupulous morality, he could

— and they, perhaps, had thought he would — retain for himself. In the course of the conversation he had incidentally remarked, that, in the interval before the arrival of the vessels, he should like to pass a few days at Paris.

There was present in the counting-room, during the interview, a person advanced in years, who, though apparently absorbed in reading a newspaper, had in reality listened to the conversation. It was M. Peter Cæsar Labouchere, related by marriage to the Baring family, and the senior member of the great house of Hope & Co., at Amsterdam. Highly pleased with the appearance and demeanor of Mr. Bates, who had expressed a wish to visit Paris, whither he was himself going, M. Labouchere proposed to him to take a seat in his post-chaise. The three days' journey afforded ample opportunity for cultivating the acquaintance so auspiciously commenced between the veteran merchant and the young American; and when they parted in Paris, M. Labouchere said to Mr. Bates, that if, at any future time, he found himself in need of counsel or aid, they should not be wanting. An assurance like this, made by the head of one of the first commercial houses in Europe, was well calculated to inspire the person to whom it was addressed with a generous ambition, and lofty views of success in life. It also proves, in a very striking manner, that Mr. Bates must, in his manners and conversation, have carried with him an all-powerful letter of recommendation.

An opportunity soon occurred of putting the sin-

cerity of M. Labouchere's offers to the test. The failure of Mr. Samuel Williams, the wealthy American banker and merchant, in London, in 1826, created a very desirable opening for any successor possessed of adequate capital. Mr. Bates felt himself competent to the place in every other respect, and wrote to M. Labouchere for his counsel, as to the expediency of attempting to take advantage of this occurrence. M. Labouchere advised him to await awhile the development of affairs, but, in order to enable him to take advantage of any contingency, placed to his credit with the Barings, the sum of twenty thousand pounds. A partnership was soon formed between Mr. John Baring (the son of Sir Thomas) and Mr. Bates, and the American business passed rapidly into their hands. This connection lasted two years, when Mr. John Baring and Mr. Bates were admitted as partners to the house of Baring Bros. & Co., of which in the course of time Mr. Bates became the senior member, and in which he acquired his colossal fortune.

The importance of this connection in the commercial world needs no comment. It may be sufficient to say, that Mr. Bates sustained himself, in the new and responsible position, to the entire satisfaction of his associates, and eminently to the advantage of his countrymen having business relations abroad. His sagacious foresight contributed largely to carry the house triumphantly through the crisis of 1837; and on more than one important occasion he was examined by parliamentary committees. To enumerate his acts of kindness to individuals would be to repeat the names of a

very considerable number of the American travellers in Europe. The house of the Barings having been the bankers of the United States from the organization of the Government, with the exception of a short period under Presidents Jackson and Van Buren, the judgment of Mr. Bates, as an intelligent and patriotic American citizen, was of course highly important, in conducting the correspondence of the house with the Treasury.

A full biographical memoir of Mr. Bates would form a very instructive work for young men entering on a business life, but would greatly exceed the limits of this Report. To one important incident of a public nature, allusion may properly be made. The diplomatic intercourse between the governments of the United States and Great Britain, since the peace of 1815, had become encumbered with a multitude of pecuniary claims of the citizens of either country against the government of the other. Many of these were of a complicated character. As it was of course impossible to subject them to legal adjudication, they formed a constant source of disagreement, and often of unpleasant correspondence, between the two governments, usually with no other result than that each successive minister at London and Washington, was required to take up and study the various questions *de novo*, generally leaving them, where they were left by his predecessor. In the last winter of Mr. Fillmore's administration, a movement was made, in the Department of State, to remedy this evil. The American minister in London (Mr. Joseph R. Ingersoll) was instructed to propose a joint commission for a settlement of all these claims.

This overture was readily embraced by Great Britain, and a convention was promptly negotiated. It provided for the appointment of a commissioner and agent on each side, and for the choice of an umpire to decide the questions on which the commissioners might disagree. Ex-President Van Buren, then in Florence, was, in the first instance, selected as umpire, and he having declined the appointment, the choice fell on Mr. Bates.

The claims submitted to the commissioners were over one hundred in number. Many of them required but little investigation and were soon disposed of, while others, though clear as to principles, were rendered doubtful and difficult by conflicting and uncertain testimony. A third class involved important questions of international law, and had been strenuously contested between the two governments for nearly thirty years. The amount claimed ran into the millions, but was reduced by the awards to about \$ 600,000, which was about equally divided between the two countries. It devolved upon Mr. Bates as umpire to decide the most difficult cases, and this delicate office was performed by him, it is believed, to the satisfaction of both governments. Some of his decisions contain compendious discussions of important questions in the law of nations, and show the extent, to which a clear judgment, aided by practical knowledge of affairs, though without professional training, may be trusted for a sound opinion even on questions that involve theoretical difficulties.

His personal character, wealth, and connection with the house of the Barings (of which the senior mem-

ber, Mr. Alexander Baring, was raised to the peerage as Lord Ashburton, in 1835) gave Mr. Bates facility of access to the highest circles of English society. He had, however, as little leisure as taste for fashionable life, and his habits and manners retained unimpaired the simplicity of his earlier fortunes. He greatly relished the intercourse of an intelligent select circle, and was never happier than in dispensing a generous hospitality alike to natives and foreigners. Among his near neighbors, at his country house at East Sheen, was Samuel Taylor Coleridge, who delighted to bring his lofty and often paradoxical generalizations to the touchstone of Mr. Bates's sterling common sense and practical discernment. The present Emperor of the French, during his exile in London, was much in the intimacy of Mr. Bates, who entertained a very favorable opinion of the future sovereign, not yet clothed with the prestige of success. It is equally to the credit of Louis Napoleon that, in the apogee of his fortunes, he won the esteem of a man like Mr. Bates, and that their friendly relations survived his elevation to the throne.

A great sorrow clouded his domestic relations in early life. His only son, while passing the holidays with a schoolmate in the country, was killed by the accidental discharge of his companion's gun. Mr. Bates's only daughter, the wife of Mr. Sylvain Van de Weyer, for many years and still the Belgian Minister in London, survives her father.

Reflecting honor as a countryman on his native State, and upon this community in which he passed his early years, it is nevertheless as the founder of the Public

Library, that Mr. Bates possesses his highest title to the grateful remembrance of the citizens of Boston.

It would not probably be easy to fix a date to the first suggestion of a public library in this city. It was an idea sure to present itself to the minds of reflecting persons, with the increase of population and wealth, and it was a subject of serious consideration in public-spirited circles above thirty years ago. In 1843, in return for a present of books, which had been sent from Boston to the Municipal Council of Paris, a number of valuable works were received from that distinguished body, through M. Vattemare, in pursuance of his system of international exchanges. From that time up to the year 1852 committees on the subject of a public library were appointed, and donations of books and money made and promised by several individuals, which resulted in the collection of a moderate number of volumes deposited in an upper room in the City Hall. These books were not allowed to circulate among the citizens at large, and little use was made of them on the premises.

In February, 1852, the attention of the City Government was called to the subject by a special message from Mayor Seaver. This message was referred to the Committee on the Library, who, on the 29th of April, submitted a Report, in conformity with the recommendations of the Mayor. A Librarian and Board of Trustees were now elected, and the Trustees were "requested to report to the City Council upon the objects to be attained by the establishment of a public library, and the means of effecting them." The report of this Committee was made on the 6th of July, and in Au-

gust following, the rooms on the ground floor of the Adams School-house, in Mason Street, were granted for the use of the embryo institution. The collection of books in the possession of the city, was, however, as yet too inconsiderable to make it worth while to remove it from the City Hall, and open it to the public use.

A copy of the Report just mentioned was transmitted with other city documents to the House of the Barings, with whom the City Government was then negotiating the water-loan, and it attracted the notice of Mr. Bates. He saw in it the opening for the foundation of a public library in the City of Boston on principles somewhat novel, and which would afford to young men those means and opportunities for improving their minds and passing their leisure hours profitably, of which he had himself sorely felt the want in his youth. He accordingly, by a letter addressed to the Mayor, of the 1st of October, 1852, announced his willingness to make a donation, which would enable the city "to establish the library at once." It was in the following terms.

LONDON, 1 Oct. 1852.

"DEAR SIR: I am indebted to you for a copy of the Report of the Trustees of the Public Library for the City of Boston, which I have perused with great interest, being impressed with the importance to rising and future generations of such a Library as is recommended; and while I am sure that, in a liberal and wealthy community like that of Boston, there will be no want of funds to carry out the recommendations of the Trustees, it may accelerate its accomplishment and establish the Library at once, on a scale to do credit to the city, if I am allowed to pay

for the books required, which I am quite willing to do, — leaving to the city to provide the building and take care of the expenses.

The only condition that I ask is, that the building shall be such as to be an ornament to the city, — that there shall be a room for one hundred to one hundred and fifty persons to sit at reading-tables, — that it shall be perfectly free to all, with no other restrictions than may be necessary for the preservation of the books. What the building may cost, I am unable to estimate, but the books, counting additions during my lifetime, — I estimate at \$50,000, which I shall gladly contribute, and consider it but a small return for the many acts of confidence and kindness which I have received from my many friends in your city.

Believe me, Dear Sir, very truly yours,

JOSHUA BATES.

BENJAMIN SEAVER, ESQ., *Mayor of the City of Boston.*

This offer was gratefully accepted by the City Government, and Mr. Bates, having been requested by the Trustees to allow his generous donation to be funded, and the interest only to be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value, cheerfully gave his consent to this arrangement, and by a letter of the 10th March, 1853, authorized the Mayor to draw upon him for \$50,000.

The requisite preparations being completed, the Reading Room was opened in Mason Street, in March, 1854; and in a few weeks the Library, with a printed Catalogue, was opened for the circulation of books.

These arrangements were all understood to be temporary and provisional. On the 27th Nov. 1855, the City Council adopted an Ordinance, creating a Board of

Commissioners for the erection of a library building in Boylston Street, and on receiving information that it was in satisfactory progress, Mr. Bates, by a letter of the 6th Sept. 1855, announced his intention, in addition to his former donation, "to purchase and present to the city a considerable number of books in trust," for the purposes of the Public Library. The intended amount of this second donation was not indicated, but it actually reached the sum of \$50,000. The corner-stone of the new building was laid on the 17th of September, 1855, and on the same day and month of the year 1858, the Reading Room was opened in it. On the 17th of December following, the Library was opened for use, with a Catalogue only of the Lower Hall. The formal dedication of the edifice took place on the first of January, 1858, and in July, 1861, the Catalogue of the books in the Upper Hall—a work of immense labor—being completed, the entire Library was opened to the public.

It is not the purpose of the foregoing sketch to narrate in full the history of the Library, which is recorded in greater detail in the Appendix to the account of the Dedication. It is here intended only to set forth Mr. Bates's connection with the establishment of the Institution. From the facts stated it will be seen, that his original endowment of \$50,000, gave the first effective impulse to the foundation of the Library on its present broad basis, and, with his second donation to the same amount, so far transcends in importance all earlier gifts of books or money, however liberal, as to entitle him to be considered the Founder of the Institution. As such the Trustees have recognized him, in their resolution

above referred to, unanimously adopted on receiving information of his decease, and as such he will be gratefully remembered by the citizens of Boston in all coming time.

In concluding this Report, the Trustees are happy in being able again to bear witness to the diligence and fidelity of those connected with the administration of the Library. It will be readily inferred from the number of those who visit the Institution, of the books borrowed and returned, and of the new volumes added to the Library, that a vast amount of work is daily performed within its walls. The Trustees are satisfied that in no public institution is it performed with greater punctuality and cheerfulness, or with more satisfactory results.*

Respectfully submitted by

EDWARD EVERETT,
GEO. TICKNOR,
J. P. BIGELOW,
NATHL. B. SHURTLEFF,
WM. W. GREENOUGH,
W. W. CLAPP, JR.,
P. T. JACKSON.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, *November 26, 1864.*

* When this Report was prepared, the interesting pamphlet containing the "Tribute to Joshua Bates by Boston merchants," had not been seen by the writer.

[A]

REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

THE Committee of Examination, appointed to make the Annual Examination of the Library, have attended to a duty which it is pleasant to discharge, there being so many evidences of the good which the institution is accomplishing under the guidance of gentlemen who, appreciating the liberality of the City Council, and the responsibility reposed in them by beneficent donors, labor with unceasing zeal to build up, for the benefit of the present and future generations, this great temple of literary culture and mental improvement.

The statistics furnished by the Superintendent, supply us with the gratifying fact that, notwithstanding the unsettled condition of the public mind, incidental to civil war, the demands upon the Library are yearly increasing; many, no doubt, finding on its shelves the means of alleviating those pangs which are caused by the absence in the field, of husbands, brothers, and sons. Each day some gratifying incident occurs, illustrating the great power for good which this Library is accomplishing; and when it is known that on the average nearly a thousand persons each day enter its portals, to take out or consult books, or read the periodicals, it is evident that the institution is already accomplishing a mission, and has to-day attained to a position of usefulness which was not anticipated at so early a date in its history by those most sanguine at its inauguration. We may congratulate the city upon the freedom which is afforded to every resident to enjoy, to the fullest extent, the advantages which are sought for within its walls; for no public library, within our knowledge, is opened to applicants more hours in the day,

or has attained to so wide a popularity among those who frequent it. The system of obtaining books is simple, and but little time is required to secure the volume desired. The Reading Room, which is one of the most attractive departments, is appreciated, affording to the poorest artisan the opportunity, which would otherwise be confined to the rich, to consult the weekly and monthly record, foreign and domestic, of the progress making in arts, sciences, and manufactures; often enabling an humble mechanic to obtain information of some new discovery in mechanics, or some new principle applicable to the industrial pursuit in which he is engaged, before it has attracted the attention of his employer. The current intelligence of the day flows into the minds of the people, giving new impulses to the brain and quickening the best energies of men; and it is, therefore, on this account, that we recommend that the Reading Room should be made the receptacle of all magazines, at home and abroad, which may prove sources of literary entertainment, or, what is still more valuable, contribute to the well-being of the laboring classes, by bringing constantly before them the news which has a direct bearing upon the avocations in which they are engaged.

There is, perhaps, an erroneous impression, too prevalent in our community, that there is necessarily an incompatibility in creating a Library of Reference, and in making a collection of books which shall be valuable to scholars, and at the same time giving to the Library that class of books termed "popular," which are supposed to be most in demand. In the management of this Library, a wise course has been pursued; for, while it has been the aim of the Trustees to meet the demand for popular books, they have not omitted to place on its shelves volumes which give it a paramount and ever-increasing influence. The beneficence of its donors enables the Trustees to seek in every market of the world those volumes which are considered standard authority upon all subjects; while the gifts of friends are daily enriching its Catalogue with volumes that,

within a few years, will only be found within the walls of this and similar institutions. The Library is not so rich in some departments as might be wished ; but when we remember its small beginning, and look at what has already been accomplished, we have abundant assurance that it only requires time to make good all present defects. The Trustees have, indeed, made most excellent use of the resources at their command ; but we cannot forbear expressing the hope that the liberality of the city, or of public-spirited individuals, may enable them to procure at an early day an ample collection of those books in the department of bibliography, greatly needed by the guardians of the Library to aid them in their official labors.

We find much to commend in the system adopted for receiving, recording, and cataloguing the books which are purchased for the Library ; and it is with pleasure that we approve the steps now taken, to open in proper form, a set of books, giving with accuracy the financial condition of the various funds.

The cleanliness which marks every department, from cellar to attic, reflects credit upon the janitor. We trust that, at no very distant day, the much-needed improvement may be made of substituting steam-heating apparatus for the present coal furnaces, the advantages being very manifest in a building devoted to such purposes as this.

Congratulating the City Council upon the gentlemen and ladies, who so faithfully fulfil their important duties, that any change in any of the heads would be an almost irreparable loss, we respectfully submit this Report.

W. W. CLAPP, Jr., *Chairman.*

HENRY W. FOOTE,

W. F. FOWLE,

A. A. GOULD,

JAS. L. LITTLE,

THOMAS MINNS.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, *November 11, 1864.*

[B]

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDANT.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY
OF BOSTON :—

GENTLEMEN: In compliance with a requirement of the “By-Laws relative to the Trustees and Officers of the Public Library,” I have the honor to present to you a Report upon the condition and increase of the Library during the year ending the first of September, 1864.

I am happy and proud to be able, this year as last, to preface the details which it is my duty to present, with the general statement, that during the continuance of the vast national struggle upon which this city has so nobly lavished her choicest gifts, there has been no diminution of interest in the Public Library, but on the other hand progress, at an increasing rate, in all that pertains to its material prosperity and its educational usefulness.

INCREASE.

During the year, 6,226 books, 2,939 pamphlets, 367 maps and charts, 887 separate papers, 29 engravings, and a lithographic stone, containing designs relating to the life of Franklin, have been added to the Library.

Of these, 1,081 books, 2,772 pamphlets, 224 maps, and all the other articles enumerated, are due to the liberality of 219 individuals and societies. A list of the donors is appended to this Report, and marked AA.

The number of books purchased during the year, is 5,145. This is above the average for former years.

Among the donations, I would especially mention the continuation of the magnificent and important work often alluded to in former Reports, the specifications and drawings of English patents, published and presented by the Commissioners of Patents of Great Britain; two hundred and five charts, from the U. S. Coast Survey, the value and importance of which have been enhanced to us by the care of the Superintendent, Dr. Bache, and the assistant, Mr. Hilgard, in completing our set, and furnishing us with interesting notes relative to the details of this great national work; the donation of pamphlets, some of which are rare and curious, by Mrs. Lunt, of Quincy; and, particularly, a unique and valuable collection of books, 160 in number, relative to the Provençal language and literature, presented by Mr. Ticknor. This collection, besides the scarce and costly works of Bastero, Gatién-Arnould, and others, equally rare, comprises 74 volumes of the "Recueil" of the "Académie des jeux floraux" at Toulouse, published between the years 1732 and 1863. This publication was commenced in 1696, and has been continued (generally one volume a year), but with some interruptions, till the present time. So large a part of a complete set it is extremely rare to meet with in any library. Indeed, I can find no record of another set as full.

PRESENT EXTENT OF THE COLLECTIONS.

The Library contains at present, —

Books in the Upper Hall (henceforward, by order of the Trustees, to be known and designated as BATES	
HALL, in honor of the founder of the Li-	
brary),	93,342 volumes
In the Lower Hall,	23,592 "
Total,	<hr/> 116,934 "

These are all bound volumes, but above 2,000 of them are pamphlets of consequence, separately bound, and 5,116 are duplicates and odd volumes, placed by themselves, to be exchanged or sold.

Besides these, the Library possesses a large number of unbound pamphlets. According to the enumeration continued from year to year, after deducting those separately bound, the present collection numbers 31,837. Many of these are odd numbers of periodicals, and numerous copies of the same publications. The superfluous copies have been taken out and assorted, and the remainder are conveniently arranged, and are made available by an alphabetical list on slips, upon each of which the location of the pamphlet is noted, so that it can be readily found. Many of them are duplicates of pamphlets already bound, because they are important, and placed as books in the Library. More than 1,500 of the most valuable historical and biographical pamphlets, and works of Boston authors, have during the year been selected out to be separately bound.

Of the duplicates reported last year, several hundred have been exchanged for valuable works, which have been credited to the donors of the books disposed of. Some three hundred duplicates have also been added to the list. But the aggregate reported this year is smaller than that of the last year. A list of the duplicates has been printed, not including, however, the imperfect sets of periodicals, and the odd volumes. Opportunities are frequently occurring for exchanges of a few volumes at a time, but it is difficult to dispose of large numbers of books in this way. Few libraries possess among their duplicates any considerable number of books not already on our shelves. The process of negotiation, of assigning to donors books of equal value with those presented by them, and of making the requisite entries in our Accessions Catalogue, is a slow one, and, during the progress of printing the large Supplement, now in press, it is almost impossible to bestow upon a system of exchanges the requisite amount of labor. The books, however, though not

accomplishing their legitimate purpose of usefulness, are not at present troublesome. We have shelf-room for them. They are so placed that any one of them can readily be found, and the printed list affords every needed facility for disposing of them as opportunities may occur.

Books which are duplicates of those already in the Library are constantly presented; generally, of late, with the understanding that they may be disposed of in any way most advantageous to the institution. If sold, the proceeds would have to be paid into the City Treasury, and could not be employed in procuring other books to be credited to the donors. In view of the difficulties of making exchanges, and the constant accumulation of books which it is not expedient to retain, I would suggest the propriety of requesting from the City Government permission to sell, by private sale or by auction, books not needed, and to use the money thus obtained in purchasing other books to be credited to the persons through whose liberality these purchases have been made. This seems but justice to the original liberal donors.

Besides the books and pamphlets included in the preceding statements, and a number of engravings, broadsides, and other articles, the Library contains about 500 maps, most of which are modern and important.

USE OF THE LIBRARY.

During the year, 4,758 applications for cards to take out books have been answered, making the whole number of persons who have signed the promise to obey the rules of the Library, and who have thus acquired the right to enjoy its privileges, 35,239. The number of new signatures is larger than in any year since 1860.

The number of lendings of books for home use was 184,035, a number considerably larger than in any preceding year. The number lent from the Upper, or Bates Hall, was 7,468 against

5,222 for last year. The number used in the Hall, 11,057, against 7,124, last year. It should be stated, however, that the statistics of last year covered a period of only 10 months. The Reading Room has been frequented as heretofore.

The average daily circulation throughout the year was 664.34. The largest reported any previous year was 643.56. The largest circulation in one day was 1,424 on the 27th of February. This is larger than on any preceding day in the history of the Library, except the 1st of March, 1862, when 1,517 books were given out; and the 7th of February, 1863, when 1,534 lendings were reported.

There were, on an average, throughout the year, 302 daily visitors in the Reading Room, and 202 in Bates Hall, making, with those who came to borrow books for home use, an average daily number of 1,128 frequenters of the Library. On some days it has been ascertained that more than two thousand persons have come to the Library for literary purposes, besides those who came from mere curiosity.

These results are truly gratifying. They show that the success of the Library is not attributable to transient interest in a new experiment, but to the fact that it was founded upon a widely felt need of such a resource for general popular education and culture.

The following statement shows the relative use of different classes of books in Bates Hall, during the year:—

English History and Literature	16 per cent.
Useful Arts and Fine Arts	12 “ “
Theology and Ethics	11 “ “
American History and Literature	8½ “ “
French “ “	7½ “ “
Periodicals	6 “ “
Mathematical and Physical Sciences	5½ “ “
Medicine	5 “ “
General History	4¼ “ “

Natural History	4 per cent.
Greek and Latin Classics	3½ “ “
Oriental History and Literature	3½ “ “
Bibliography	3 “ “
Italian History and Literature	2½ “ “
German “ “	2 “ “
Law	2 “ “
Transactions of Learned Societies	1½ “ “
Miscellaneous	$\frac{3}{4}$ “ “

LOSSES AND INJURIES.

The number of books reported as missing from the Lower Hall, is 432. I regret to notice that this is above the average of former years. Of the 234 reported as missing last year, 39 have been regained. The amount collected in fines is \$126.37.

In examining the collections in Bates Hall, 15 books were found to be missing from their places, and they have not yet been accounted for. Only two of them had been charged to visitors during the year. The annual scrutiny of the Library is very close and careful, and it seems scarcely possible that a loss can occur without being noticed. Still, books are occasionally misplaced and forced in behind others, where they remain a longer or shorter period undiscovered. Most of the books now missing are, it is believed, thus misplaced. The absence of a few of them, however, cannot well be accounted for in this way, and leads to painful suspicions. The public are excluded from the alcoves, and no one has been admitted to them except under circumstances which seem to preclude the possibility of theft. It is true that the books missing are none of them rare, or of much pecuniary value, but it is very unsatisfactory, under the strict police of this Hall, to lose a single book, however unimportant it may be.

The books lent from this Hall have almost without exception

been used with care, and the whole collection is in excellent condition.

I regret to say, that the appearance of the books in the Lower Hall does not show the improvement I had hoped for, in the carefulness of their treatment by borrowers. I apprehend that the time may come when it will be necessary to make more stringent regulations for the distribution of the books, and to adopt some measures for detecting those persons who deface and mutilate this portion of the public property.

The real cost to the city of replacing the books lost and rendered unfit for use is not indeed large, and almost any restrictions will, it has been feared, operate to the disadvantage of the innocent, and of many for whose benefit it is most desirable to care. Still, the continuance of discreditable practices on the part of borrowers, and their full extent should not be concealed, nor should it be supposed that the evil is irremediable.

I have thought it might be well to employ for a time, a sufficient number of persons, to examine carefully in some one alcove selected for the trial, every book, both before it is lent out, and after it is returned, till some of the borrowers who persist in disregarding their own honor and the public rights, are discovered. I am not prepared to recommend this measure at present, but I have deemed it my duty again to call attention thus formally and emphatically to the subject, in the hope that the necessity of any measure of the kind suggested, may yet be obviated.

THE CATALOGUES.

A Supplement to the Index of the Lower Hall has been printed, containing the additions for the year. A new edition of the Index to the Upper, or Bates Hall, has also been printed from the original stereotype plates.

The new Supplement for this Hall is now in the press. The printing, owing to various unavoidable delays, was at first very slow, but it is now proceeding more rapidly. This Supple-

ment will be more than half as large as the large original Index. Numerous additions have been made to it since the printing was commenced. More than 1,500 pamphlets, which have been selected from the mass, as important enough to be bound, are recorded in this Index. These comprise all we possess of tracts published by Boston authors, or relating to the affairs of the city.

When this Supplement is finished the whole Library, both in the Bates and Lower Halls, except books that may be received during the progress of the printing, will be entered in the printed Index. This is very important for the public, and for the free use of the Library. But the Index to the Lower Hall will remain in the original publication of 1858, and no less than seven Supplements to it. It seems necessary that these should be combined in one alphabet, and this task should be commenced as soon as possible after the publication of the large Supplement for Bates Hall. The public convenience requires it.

It is unnecessary perhaps to add, that the Card Catalogue, which is the basis of the printed Index, and of what is most important in the administration of the Library, has been regularly kept up to the last accessions; so also have the Accessions Catalogue, and Shelf-lists. In short, no arrears in any part of the library-work have been allowed to accumulate.

ADMINISTRATION.

It is very seldom that an important establishment of any kind rises in a few years from small beginnings to a magnitude like that of the Public Library, without finding it indispensable to revise some of its early arrangements, or even to adopt entirely new systems of administration. The great and rapid development of this institution was, however, anticipated from the first, and most of the plans were wisely made, as far as was possible, so as to be capable of unlimited expansion. The importance of this forecast can hardly be over-estimated.

In consequence of the great increase of work in many branches of the service, it has been found necessary during the last year, to make a new division of labor, but it has been a mere change in administrative details, and does not involve any substantial modifications of plans of organization.

The system of keeping the accounts has, however, long been found ill-suited to furnish the information often suddenly needed. The whole plan has, therefore, been remodelled. It is believed that the one now adopted will be found in every way convenient and satisfactory, and that it will meet the demands of the institution in its largest expansion.

Throughout the year the persons employed under my direction have faithfully and with zealous interest performed the labors assigned to them, the amount of which can only be fully appreciated by those, who, having had experience of such work, can examine the results here attained.

I will only add, in conclusion, that the good order which has characterized the institution from the first, has in no case been interrupted during the last year. Among the throngs who daily visit the Library, no cases of wanton injury or intentional rudeness have occurred, — no avoidable noise even, except very rarely an unconscious loudness of voice on the part of a visitor has been heard. Entire stillness is of course impossible in large halls with marble floors, filled often with deeply interested visitors, and where the business of delivering and receiving books, of answering inquiries, and of performing many of the practical operations of the Library, must be continually conducted.

The usual statement of accounts is appended to this Report, and marked BB.

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES C. JEWETT, *Superintendent.*

LIST OF DONORS.

Bates, Joshua, London	\$ 50,000
Bigelow, Hon. John P.	1,000
Franklin Club	1,000
Lawrence, Hon. Abbott	10,000
Phillips, Hon. Jonathan	30,000
Townsend, Mary P.	4,000

The interest of these donations, with the exception of that of the Townsend Fund, (which is invested in a mortgage at six per cent.,) has been paid in gold at the rate of five per cent. per annum.

	Vols. Pamphs.	
Abbott, Ezra,		1
Adams, Rev. N., D. D.,	3	
Adams, Mrs. Sarah M.,	143	76
Agassiz, L., Prof., Cambridge,		1
Albany Female Academy,		1
Albany Young Men's Association,		1
Allan, George H.,		5
Allen, Joseph H.,	1	
American Antiquarian Society, Worcester,		2
American Anti-slavery Society,		2
American Baptist Missionary Union,	10	3
American Education Society,		1
American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia,		1
American Unitarian Association,		10
Anonymous,	1 Paper.	9 79

	Vols. Pamphs.	
Appleton, W. S.,	1	5
Atkinson, Edward,	13	16
Atwood, Charles,	1	
Avery, Abraham,	1	
Balfour, David M.,		
Barnard, Hon. Henry, Hartford,		1
Barnard, James M.,	6 Papers.	59
Bartlett, Hon. J. R., Providence,	1	1
Bates, Samuel P., Harrisburg, Pa.,	1	
Biddeford Public Library,	1	
Black, James, Lancaster, Pa.,		1
Boston, City of,	11	5
Boston Athenæum,	5	1
Boston Gas Light Company,	4	
Boston Provident Association,		6
Bogart, W. H.,		1
Bond, George P.,		3
Bowditch, H. I., M. D.,		25
Bowditch Library,	1	3
Bradlee, Rev. Caleb Davis,	10	37
Buckingham, Joseph T., Sons of,	16	
Burgess, Rev. Ebenezer,	1	
Burnham, T. O. H. P.,	17	
Burroughs, Rev. Henry,	1	
Butler Hospital for the Insane, Providence,		1
California, Adjutant-General of,	1	
Cama, M. H.,	1	
Capen, John,	43	
Capen, Mrs. Lemuel,	3	30
Cavalcante, S. Albuquerque, through J. McMullen,	1	
Chambers, George, E., Philadelphia,	1	
Charlestown Public Library,		1
Child, Henry Dorr,	8 Maps.	1
Christ Church, Longwood,	1	
Christern, F. W., New York,	2	
Cincinnati Mercantile Library Association,		1
Clark, Roxanna M.,		1
Cleveland, Charles D.,	1	
Coggeshall, W. T.,		1
Colcord, S. M.,	1	
Congregational Board of Publication,	1	

	Vols.	Pamphs.
Coxe, Samuel N.,	1	
Cozzens, William C.,	1	
Cranch, William G., Washington, D. C.,		56
Curtis, Cynthia,	1	
Curtis, Thomas B.,		1
Daley, Hon. C. P., New York,	1	2
Dana, R. H., Jr.,		1
De Vries, Ibarra & Co.,	3	
Dorr, James A., New York,	1	
Draper, Warren F., Andover,		1
Dyer, Thomas S.,	1	
Edinburgh Royal Society,	2	
Essex Institute, Salem,	3	6
Everett, Hon. Edward,	25	291
Farwell, J. E. & Co.,		8
Foley, William J.,	1	27
Foster, Hon. L. S.,		1
Friese, Frederick,	1	
Fuller, F.,	5	25
Fuller, R. F.,	1	
Garrison, Wendell Phillips,	6	
Gay, Mrs. George,	92 Papers.	59 122
Goldsmith, Seth,		4
Great Britain. Commissioners of Patents,	79	
Green, Samuel A., M. D.,	1	
Greenough, W. W.,	302 Papers.	9 203
Hague, William, D. D.,	1	
Hale, George S.,	1 ancient Paper.	
Hall, Charles B.,		6
Hall, W. W., M. D.,		13
Harvard College, Cambridge,		1
Haskins, Rev. D. G.,		1
Hasted, Frederick,	2	7
Hilgard, J. E., Washington, D. C.,		1
Holland, Rev. F. W.,	1	
Homans, J. Smith, New York,	1	4
Hooper, Hon. Samuel,	6	
Huntington, Rev. F. D.,		1
Indiana, Adjutant-General of,	1	
International Exchange,	4	
Ives, William J., Buffalo.	1	1

	Vols. Pamphs.	
Kentucky, Adjutant-General of,	1	
Ladreyt, E. M.,	1	
Langworthy, Rev. Isaac P.,	1	
Lawrence, Abbott,	10 Papers.	47
Lawrence, T. B.,	1 Map.	
London, Corporation of,		2
London. Royal Society,	2	
London. Royal Astronomical Society,	1	10
London. Royal Geographical Society,	1	4
Loring, Charles G.,		1
Loring, F. W.,	1	
Loring, J. Spear,	4	31
Lowell, City of,	2	
Lowell City Library,		1
Lunt, Mrs. William P., Quincy,	5	323
McAlvin, John,	1	
McCleary, Samuel F.,	1	
Manchester Free Library,	1	
Massachusetts, State of,	18	
Massachusetts Sabbath School Society,		1
Massachusetts Horticultural Society,	1	
Merrill, George,	1	
Mitchell, E. L.,		1
Morgan, Henry J., Quebec,	6	
Moore, C. W.,	1	12
Murdock, A. W. and W. A., Lithographic stone containing designs illustrating the life of Franklin.		
Myers, Hon. Leonard,		1
Napoleon III, Emperor of the French,	2	
New Bedford Public Library,	1	
New York, Adjutant-General of,	2	
New York Bellevue Hospital, Medical College,		1
New York Chamber of Commerce,	2	
New York Mercantile Library Association,	1	1
New Nation, Publishers of, New York,	18 Papers.	
Olmstead, J. W.,	1	125
Onderdonk, Henry, Jr., Jamaica, L. I.,	1	3
Otis, Mary,		56
Owens, S. M.,	1	
Parker, Henry T.,	16	
Parker, Mrs. Lydia D.,	2	

	Vols. Pamphs.	
Parker, Theodore, Library of,	1	1
Peabody Institute, South Danvers,		1
Perkins, Augustus T.,		1
Perry, W. S.,		1
Pennsylvania Institute for the Instruction of the Blind,		1
Philbrick, John D.,	2	
Phillips, Wendell,	1	10
Phillips Academy, Andover, Trustees of,	1	
Picard, William, Cadiz,	2	
Potter, Hon. E. R., Kingston, R. I.,	5	13
Providence, City of,		1
Punchard, Rev. George,		11
Punchard, Miss K. M.,		1
Quebec Literary and Historical Society,	1	
Ramsay, Cyrus, M. D.,	2	
Redpath, James,		5
Renard, Dr., Moscow,	1	
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute,		1
Rhode Island Grand Lodge of Masons,	1	
Richardson, Elizabeth,	1	
Roberts Brothers,	2	
Rochester Athenæum,		1
Roelker, Bernard,		2
Salem Athenæum,	1	
San Francisco Mercantile Library Association,		1
Saturday Express,	12 Papers.	
Schenectady. Vassar Female College,		1
Searle, George W.,	1	
Segar, Hon. Joseph,		1
Shaw, Dr. B. S.,		2
Smith, C. C.,		1
Snow, Edwin M., M. D.,		1
Sokovnin, Captain, Russia,	4	
Sparks, J.,		6
Spencer, W. V.,	1	
Storer, H. R., M. D.,	9	2
Streeter, Sebastian F.,		3
Sturgis, Robert,	3	
Sumner, Hon. Charles,	34	16
Tappan, John,	1	
Thomas, J. Nichols, Providence, R. I.,		9
Thompson, Newell A.,		825

	Vols. Pamphs.	
Thurston, G. H.,	1	
Ticknor, George,	194	
Tincker, Mary Agnes,	2	
Tolman & Co.,	3 Papers.	
Toner, J. M., M. D.,	1	
Torrey, J. G.,	11	
Treadwell, Prof. Daniel,	1	
United States,	2	
United States. Bureau of Navigation,	1	
United States. Coast Survey,	205 Charts.	
United States. Department of State,	4	1
United States. Library of Congress,	1	
United States. Naval Observatory,	1	
United States. Navy Department, Wm. Faxon,	1	
United States. Navy Department,	10 Maps.	2
United States. Ordnance Bureau,	6	
United States. Treasury Department,	2	
Upham, William P.,		1
Upton, George B.,	1	
Urbino, S.,	11	
Vienna, K. K. Geol. Reichsanstalt,		3
Vinton, Frederic.	1	
Walley, Hon. S. H.,	12	38
Warren, Hon. C. H.,	3	
Warren, J. M., M. D.,	7	26
Warren, William, Brighton,	1	
Warren & Co.,	396 Papers.	
Washington. Smithsonian Institution,	3	
Wells, Rev. E. M. P.,		1
Whipple, E. P.,	1	
Whitney, Rev. Frederic A., Longwood,	29 Papers.	64
Willis, Nathaniel,	47 Papers.	7
Wilmington Institute,		1
Wilson, Hon. Henry,	54	
Winthrop, Hon. R. C.,	1	57
Wisconsin, Adjutant-General of,		1
Worcester Free Library,		2
Worthington & Flanders, Pub. of the Traveller,	4	
Wright, Elizur,	2	
Wright & Potter,	9	25

[BB]

FINANCIAL STATEMENT,

*For one year, from Sept 1, 1863, to August 31, 1864,
inclusive.*

Binding,	\$1,141 42
Books, American, \$4,690.18; Remittances for foreign books, \$8,423.31,	13,113 49
Catalogue,	1,493 60
Expense,	790 81
Fuel,	1,317 01
Furniture and Fixtures,	221 68
Gas,	1,115 30
Printing,	547 29
Salaries,	12,192 90
Stationery,	664 42
Transportation,	191 36
	<hr/>
	\$32,789 28

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RESOLUTIONS

ADOPTED BY THE TRUSTEES, ON RECEIVING NOTICE OF THE DEATH OF

JOSHUA BATES, Esq.

At a special meeting of the Trustees of the Public Library on the 13th Oct. 1864, the President laid before the Trustees a copy of a letter from Thomas Baring, Esq., M. P., to S. G. Ward, Esq. of this city, agent of the house of Messrs. Baring Bros. & Co., containing information of the death of Joshua Bates, Esq., the senior partner of the house, at London, 24th of Sept. last; whereupon, on motion of the President, it was

Resolved, unanimously, That the Trustees of the Public Library have received, with the sincerest emotion, the tidings of the death of their honored and beloved countryman, Joshua Bates, Esq., a man known and respected in both hemispheres, and whose loss will not easily be supplied in Europe or America; whose character, in all respects pure and exemplary, was marked equally by the most endearing domestic and social qualities, and by that clear intelligence, sound judgment, executive force, and sterling worth, which enabled him not only to achieve extraordinary success in life, but to render important services to his fellow-men in the widest fields of action.

The Trustees, with gratitude to his memory, look back upon the numberless acts of disinterested service, personal kindness, and unsolicited generosity, extended during his long career to his countrymen abroad, and they contemplate with pride and thankfulness his important agency in preserving and strengthening the ties of good will between

the kindred countries. Especially in the trying times which have come upon us, they honor the pure patriotism which glowed in his heart and guided his conduct, rebuking disloyalty and rebellion, and counter-acting, in no small degree, the sinister foreign influences employed in the unworthy attempt to break down the nationality of the United States.

That, as a duty incumbent peculiarly on the Trustees, they desire, on this occasion, to commemorate the liberality of Mr. Bates, in the endowment of the Boston Public Library, in which he was actuated by the earnest desire that his fellow-citizens of Boston, in all coming time, should enjoy those early advantages of mental culture, which fortune denied to him; and while the Trustees bear in grateful remembrance the bounties of a long list of Patrons of the Institution, they cheerfully accord to him, as by far its largest benefactor, — both for the magnitude and judicious appropriation of his gifts, and for the deep interest which he took in its prosperity from the outset, the name and honors of the Founder of the Boston Public Library.

Resolved, That in consideration of the great value of Mr. Bates's donations in money and books, the large hall of the Library be henceforward known and designated as Bates Hall.

Resolved, That a copy of this tribute to the memory of our munificent Founder be transmitted to the family of Mr. Bates, and to the house of Messrs. Baring Bros. & Co., with the assurance of our sincere sympathy.

Resolved, That these proceedings be conspicuously entered upon the Records of the Library, and that the Secretary be requested to cause a separate copy of the letters of Mr. Bates, and all other documents pertaining to his endowment, to be made, that the same may be held in distinct and perpetual remembrance.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be communicated to his Honor the Mayor, for the information of the City Council.

A true copy, — Attest :

C. C. JEWETT, *Secretary*.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



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D. F. L. Library
NOV 23 1878

